

Appln. No. 10/026,585

Attorney Docket No. 10541-595

II. Remarks

Reconsideration and reexamination of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is herein respectfully requested.

After entering this amendment, claims 18-22, 24, 25 and 28 remain pending.

Allowable subject matter

The Examiner's indication that claims 18 and 28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form is gratefully acknowledged. With regard to claims 18 and 28, these claims are now presented in independent form including all the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Since dependent claims necessarily include all the limitations of their intervening claims, it is submitted that this amendments of claims 18 and 28 are not narrowing amendments and do not give rise to any estoppel issues with regard to their interpretation under the doctrine of equivalents or limitations on that doctrine.

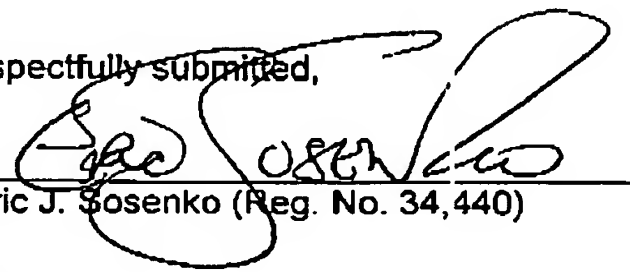
The remaining claims are all dependent on claims 18 or 28 and are allowable for the same reasons as stated above.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present form of the claims are patentably distinguishable over the art of record and this application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is requested.

6/21/05
Date

Respectfully submitted,


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